

**CLAIMS:**

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of indicating a status affected by the performance of an ALU  
2 mathematical operation, comprising:

3 executing an ALU mathematical operation instruction on a set of source operands;

4 (determining that the ALU mathematical operation instruction corresponds to an ALU

5 mathematical operation instruction with carry;

6 producing a result based on the set of source operands in accordance with the ALU

7 mathematical operation instruction; and

8 setting a status flag based on the result.

- 1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of setting the status flag  
2 includes the step of determining that the result is a non-zero value.

- 1 3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of setting the status flag  
2 includes the step of clearing the status flag by writing a value of zero to the status flag.

- 1 4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the step of setting the status flag  
2 includes the step "maintaining the value of zero in the status flag" until an ALU  
3 mathematical operation instruction without carry is determined."

- 1 5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of setting the status flag  
 2 includes the step of determining that the result is a zero value.

(5) "0" → mis-description  
 → maintain

- 1 6. The method according to claim 5, wherein the step of setting the status flag  
 2 includes the step of maintaining the value in the status flag.

setting does  
 not include  
 maintaining

similar  
 to claim 1,

- 1 7. A processor for indicating a status affected by the performance of an ALU  
 2 mathematical operation, comprising:

3 an ALU operable to:

4 execute an ALU mathematical operation instruction on a set of source operands;

5 (determine that the ALU mathematical operation instruction corresponds to an ALU  
 6 mathematical operation instruction with carry; )

instruction describes  
 not ALU

7 produce a result based on the set of source operands in accordance with the ALU  
 8 mathematical operation instruction; and

9 set a status flag based on the result.

- 1 8. The processor according to claim 7, further comprising the ALU operable to  
 2 determine that the result is a non-zero value.

9. The processor according to claim 8, further comprising the ALU operable to clear  
 1 the status flag by writing a value of zero to the status flag.

3 10. The processor according to claim 9, further comprising the ALU operable to  
4 maintain the value of zero in the status flag until an ALU mathematical operation  
5 instruction without carry is determined. "

*similar to  
claim 4*

1 11. The processor according to claim 7, further comprising the ALU operable to  
2 determine that the result is a zero value.

1 12. The processor according to claim 11, further comprising the ALU operable to  
2 maintain the value of the status flag.

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